



WELSH BOARD OF HEALTH  
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BOROUGH OF CONWAY.

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ANNUAL HEALTH REPORT.

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

(Dr.J.Gordon Mathias, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.)

FOR THE YEAR

1939.

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Health Department,  
Municipal Offices,  
"Bodlondeb"  
CONWAY.

October, 1940.



TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
HEALTH COMMITTEE,  
CONWAY CORPORATION.

Gentlemen,

I beg to submit a curtailed Annual Report for 1939 as laid down in Circular 1961 of the Welsh Board of Health. This is the first time I have had this honour and I am indebted to Dr. G. Lewis Travis for the data for work done in the first half of the year.

At no time in the history of the Borough has there been such a tremendous and sudden upheaval in the even tenor of our ways. In the previous year the Tuberculosis Commission had leisurely indicted our rural communities. The outbreak of war immediately gave us a new standard of comparison. With the influx of the evacuees from large towns and boroughs, we realised that in those supposedly more progressive districts there dwelt people whose standards of living was much lower than ours. Evacuation found Conway not unprepared. It is a tribute to the Local Authority, the Voluntary organisations and residents of the Borough that we were enabled not only to deal adequately with those who came, but also for those who did not arrive, and for whom arrangements had been made. Tales of the first mass evacuation are now history but the Conway Borough can congratulate itself that no time was spent in recrimination but that the multiple problems were tackled immediately they arose. The evacuees who stayed soon showed the beneficent effect in their physique and general health. It will be seen from the report that there was no adverse effect on the health of the residents themselves through close association with people from other areas.

The Emergency Public Health Laboratory set up by the Ministry of Health at Castle Bank, Conway, has been of the greatest advantage to the Public Health Authorities in the North Wales districts. I earnestly hope that the expert facilities for investigating, preventing and consulting in cases of Zymotic diseases, which are so ably given by Dr. Robinson and his staff will remain after the war.

The work done in all departments has been enormously increased and with other war problems, and air raid precautions have taken up a great deal of time and have added considerably to the routine work of your Health Department. Essential services have been maintained with increasing vigilance, and during the year every effort has been made by personal inspection and advice in securing for the population a pure supply of milk, food and water. The war has brought health matters very much to the fore and we feel that in the Borough a good start has been made in slum clearance and it is gratifying to see the keenness with which the Housing and Health Committees are continuing their efforts for cleaner and better homes. The happy co-operation of families in the new estates in the care of their homes is proof that pre-war expenditure on housing was well merited. On only one or two instances was it necessary to enforce some disciplinary measures to uphold the Council's standard of cleanliness.

The immunisation of children against Diphtheria has been continued throughout the year. The beneficial effects are far reaching and will extend over many years. Experiences prove that risks and possibilities of great and expensive epidemics are minimised wherever immunisation has been adopted and that the community benefits by increased health, less time lost through infectious illness, and less money spent on isolation treatment. Measles and Whooping Cough have been made compulsorily notifiable as a war measure. This was found necessary in order to check the incidence of disease when large numbers of children were moved into reception areas.

The new St. John Ambulance is a source of pride to those who worked so hard to effect the purchase.

I have to thank my colleague, Mr. Rees Griffiths, your Sanitary Inspector, who is also your Chief Air Raid Warden, for his unbounding keenness and invaluable help, also the clerical staff in the Health Department. It has been a pleasure to work with the Local Government Officials in all departments who have shown untiring zeal under the guidance of the Town Clerk, Mr. Arthur L. Ralphes.

Finally, I thank you the Chairman and Members of the Committee for your confidence and encouragement on every occasion.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Yours Obediently,

J. GORDON MATHIAS.

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STAFF OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT.

Medical Officer of Health. Part time, in service of this Council only.

Dr. J. Gordon Mathias, B.Sc., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health. Nil.

Sanitary Inspector. One. Wholly engaged in the service of this Council only.

Rees Griffiths. A.R.San.I., M.S.I.A.

Holder of specialised R.San.I. Certificate on Meat & Foods.

Also carries out duties as designated officer under:

Shops (Hours of Closing) Acts.

Young Persons (Hours of Employment) Act.

Beaumaris Port Sanitary Officer. Conway Sub-District.

Collection and Disposal of House and Shop Refuse.

Assistant Inspectors. Nil.

Health Visitors. Nil.

Indoor Staff.

Clerk. Mr David Williams.

Junior. Mr J.C. Parry.

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TABLES IN COMMON.

(Furnishing much of the matter demanded by  
the Ministry of Health in a condensed  
tabular form.)

Table 1.  
Vital Statistics.

(Note: Rate per 1000 of the Population unless otherwise  
specified)

BIRTHS:(Live)(a) Total Number. . . . .	A.	124.
(b) Boys .. . . .	B.	76.
(c) Girls .. . . .	C.	48.
(d) Live Birth-Rate(on Registrar General's Figures) .. . . .	D.	12.5
(e) Live Birth-Rate for England & Wales .. . . .	E.	15
DEATHS:(a) Total number from all causes(Civilians only) .. . . .	F.	121.
(b) Males .. . . .	G.	64.
(c) Females .. . . .	H.	57.
(d) General death-rate (on Registrar-General's figures) .. . . .	I.	12.8
(e) Death-rate for England & Wales.. . . .	J.	12.1
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR: (a) Number.. . . .	K.	11.
(b) Infant Mortality (rate per 1000 live Births) .. . . .	L.	88.
(c) Infant Mortality for England & Wales .. . . .	M.	50.
(d) Deaths of Legitimate Infants: Number .. . . .	N.	11.
(e) do do do (Mortality(per 1000 live births). O.	O.	88.
(f) Deaths of Illegitimate Infants: Number . . . . .	P.	-
(g) do do do (Mortality per 1000 live births). Q.	Q.	-
DEATHS OF ELDERLY PERSONS(65 yrs & Upwards):(a) Number .. . . .	R.	77.
(b) Senile Mortality .. . . .	S.	6.
ILLEGITIMATE AND STILL-BIRTH-RATES.		
No. of Illegitimate Births (live) .. . . .	T.	2.
Illegitimate Birth-Rate(% of total live births-see above) .. . . .	U.	1.6
No. of Still Births (a) Total .. . . .	V.	4.
(b) Legitimate .. . . .	W.	3.
(c) Illegitimate.. . . .	X.	1.
Still Birth Rate (per 1000 live births) .. . . .	Y.	52.
Still Birth Rate (per 1000 of population).. . . .	Z.	.4
Still Birth Rate for England & Wales(per 1000 population) .. . . .	A.	-
MATERNAL (including Puerperal) MORTALITY (Deaths connected with childbirth and pregnancy): Total .. . . .		
(a) From Sepsis .. . . .	C.	-
(b) From other causes .. . . .	D.	2.
(c) Maternal Mortality(per 1000 Live Births) .. . . .	E.	16.
(d) Ditto for England & Wales. . . . .	F.	2.95
ZYMOTIC MORTALITY (Deaths from so-called principal Zymotic Diseases See Table of Infectious Diseases) (a) Number of Deaths.. . . .		
(b) Zymotic Mortality .. . . .	H.	.1
DEATHS FROM CANCER( and allied malignant diseases)		
(a) Number of deaths .. . . .	I.	21.
(b) Cancer Mortality .. . . .	J.	2.1
(c) Ditto for England & Wales .. . . .	K.	-
DEATHS FROM RESPIRATORY DISEASES(Non-Tubercular) (a)No. of deaths. L.		
(b) Respiratory (Non-Tubercular) Mortality .. . . .	M.	.9
DEATHS FROM TUBERCULOSIS: (a) Number of deaths . . . . .		
(b) Tubercular Mortality .. . . .	O.	.7
(c) Ditto for England & Wales .. . . .	P.	-
DEATHS FROM INFLUENZA (a) Number of deaths .. . . .		
(b) Influenza Mortality .. . . .	R.	.6
(c) Mortality for England & Wales .. . . .	S.	-
DEATHS IN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS: (a) Number .. . . .		
(b) Percentage of total deaths .. . . .	U.	-
(c) Ditto for England & Wales .. . . .	V.	-
OPHTHALMIA NEONATORUM: An Eye-Affection of the New-Born:		
(a) Number of Cases Notified .. . . .	W.	None.

Table 11.  
General Statistics.

AREA (in Statute acres - land and inland water.) .. .. .	A.	3813.
TOTAL POPULATION:-		
Mid Year 1939 (Registrar General's Estimate) .. .. .	B.	9475.
Census 1921. .. .. .	C.	7964.
Census 1931( as revised by Registrar-General .. .. .	D.	8769.
Census 1931( as enumerated) .. .. .	E.	8769.
Males .. .. .	F.	4114.
Females .. .. .	G.	4655.
No. of Persons per Acre .. .. .	H.	2.5
PRIVATE FAMILIES AND DWELLINGS (Census 1921) :-		
No. of Families (Private Families) .. .. .	I.	1275.
No. of Dwellings occupied (Structurally separate dwellings) .. .. .	J.	1197.
Population of the said Private Families .. .. .	K.	5295.
No. of Persons per Family .. .. .	L.	4.15.
No. of Families per Dwelling .. .. .	M.	1.07
Total Number of Rooms occupied .. .. .	N.	6784.
Number of Rooms per Dwelling .. .. .	O.	5.67
Number of Rooms per Person (Whole of Caernarvonshire, 1.36) .. .. .	P.	1.28
Number of Persons Living more than two persons to a room. .. .. .	Q.	343.
Giving a % of the said Private Family population of .. .. .	R.	6.5
(Compared with the whole of Caernarvonshire - 4.1)		
RATEABLE VALUE: 1939. .. .. .		
Produce of a Penny Rate (in 1939) .. .. .	T.	£ 240.
Number of Members on the Council .. .. .	U.	20.

CAUSES OF DEATH.

Total Number of Deaths (Civilians only) .. .. .	V.	121.
(a) Males .. .. .	W.	64.
(b) Females .. .. .	X.	57.
a(1) Typhoid & Paratyphoid Fevers .. .. .	Y.	-
a(2) Measles. .. .. .	Z.	-
a(3) Scarlet Fever .. .. .	A.	-
a(4) Whooping Cough .. .. .	B.	-
a(5) Diphtheria .. .. .	C.	-
(6) Influenza .. .. .	D.	6.
(7) Encephalitis Lethargica .. .. .	E.	1.
(8) Cerebro-Spinal Fever .. .. .	F.	-
(9) Tuberculosis of Respiratory System .. .. .	G.	6.
(10) Other Tuberculous Diseases .. .. .	H.	1.
(11) Syphilis .. .. .	I.	-
(12) General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis .. .. .	J.	-
(13) Cancer, Malignant Disease .. .. .	K.	21.
(14) Diabetes .. .. .	L.	1.
(15) Cerebro Haemorrhage etc .. .. .	M.	11.
(16) Heart Disease .. .. .	N.	19.
(17) Aneurysm .. .. .	O.	-
(18) Other Circulatory Diseases .. .. .	P.	11.
(19) Bronchitis .. .. .	Q.	1.
(20) Pneumonia (All forms) .. .. .	R.	8.
(21) Other Respiratory Diseases .. .. .	S.	-
(22) Peptic Ulcer .. .. .	T.	-
a (23) Diarrhoea &c (under 2 years) .. .. .	U.	3.
(24) Appendicitis .. .. .	V.	1.
(25) Cirrhosis of Liver .. .. .	W.	-
(26) Other Diseases of the Liver &c .. .. .	X.	-
(27) Other Digestive Diseases .. .. .	Y.	5.
(28) Acute & Chronic Nephritis .. .. .	Z.	1.
(29) Puerperal Sepsis .. .. .	A.	-
(30) Other Puerperal Causes .. .. .	B.	2.
(31) Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, &c. .. .. .	C.	5
(32) Senility .. .. .	D.	2.
(33) Suicide. .. .. .	E.	1.
(34) Other Violence .. .. .	F.	5.
(35) Other Defined Diseases .. .. .	G.	9.



- (36) Causes ill-defined or unknown .. .. . H. -  
a (37) Small-Pox (not been included in No.35 above) .. .. . I. -  
(38) Poliomyelitis (not included in No.35 above).. .. . J. -  
(39) Polioencephalitis (not included in No.35 above).. .. . K. -

"a" So called "Zymotic Diseases."

NOTE. In England and Wales the Death Rate (number of fatal cases per 1000 of population) of certain Fevers was as follows:-

Enteric Fever(including Paratyphoid) - (0.00) Small-Pox -( -)  
Measles - (0.01) Scarlet Fever -(0.01) Whooping Cough - (0.03)  
Diphtheria -(0.05) Influenza - (0.21) Diarrhoea & Enteritis  
(under 2 years) - (4.6) per 1000 Live Births in this last case.

TABLE III.

PRELIMINARY NOTE:- In England and Wales, the Case-Rate (number of Notifications per 1000 of population) of certain Fevers was as follows:-  
Small-Pox -(0.00), Scarlet Fever - (1.89), Diphtheria -(1.14)  
Enteric Fever(including Paratyphoid) -(0.04), Erysipelas -(0.34)  
Pneumonia - (1.02). Calculated in relation to the number of Births,  
the Case Rate of Puerperal Fever with that of Puerperal Pyrexia was  
14.35 per 1000 total Births (Live and Still) registered.

NOTIFICATIONS OF TUBERCULOSIS AND OTHER INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

(N.B. - The number of Fatal Cases of Fever are given in Table 2.

TUBERCULOSIS. See below.

OTHER INFECTIOUS AND ZYMOTIC DISEASES .Total										A.	
a 1.	Small-Pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	B.	-
a 2.	Scarlet Fever or Scarlatina..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	C.	8.
a 3.	Diphtheria and Membranous Croup ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	D.	25.
a 4.	Diphtheritic Sore Throat and (undefined) Croup(not statutorily Notifiable unless locally).....	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	E.	-
a 5.	Typhus Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	F.	-
a 6.	Enteric Fever and Typhoid Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	G.	-
a 7.	Paratyphoid Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	H.	-
a 8.	Continued Fever and "Pyrexia" ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	I.	-
a 9.	Whooping Cough (not statutorily notifiable unless locally) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	J.	8.
a 10.	Diarrhoea, Enteritis and Gastro-Enteritis under 2 years(not statutorily notifiable) - see below for Dysentery ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	K.	-
a 11.	Cholera (non-Asiatic unless otherwise stated) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	L.	-
a 12.	Measles (not statutorily notifiable unless locally)..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	M.	46.
a 13.	German Measles (not statutorily notifiable unless locally) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	N.	-
14.	Dysentery ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	O.	-
15.	Relapsing Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	P.	-
16.	Malaria -(Believed to be contracted in this country) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Q.	-
17.	Malaria -(Believed to be contracted abroad,or not stated) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	R.	-
18.	Induced Malaria(Notifiable only if liable to relapse) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	S.	-
19.	Plague..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	T.	-
20.	Yellow Fever ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	U.	-
21.	Cerebro Spinal Meningitis (Spotted Fever) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	V.	-
22.	Acute Polio-Myelitis (Early Infantile Paralysis) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	W.	-
23.	Acute Polio-Encephalitis ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	X.	-
24.	Acute Encephalitis Lethargica (False Botulism)..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Y.	-
25.	Botulism(True) as caused by the Bacillus Botulinus..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	Z.	-
26.	Chicken-Pox (not statutorily notifiable unless locally) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	A.	-
27.	Acute Primary and Acute Influenzal Pneumonia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	B.	6.
28.	Ophthalmia Neonatorum ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	C.	-
29.	Puerperal Fever..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	D.	-
30.	Puerperal Pyrexia ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	E.	2.
31.	Influenza (not statutorily notifiable unless locally) ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	F.	-
32.	Erysipelas ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	G.	4.

(a - The so-called "Principal Zymotic Diseases".)

# TUBERCULOSIS: NEW, TREATED AND FATAL CASES.

## NEW CASES.

(a) Primary Notifications, including cases notified by Tuberculosis Physician .. .. .	H.	14.
(b) Other New Cases .. .. .	I.	-
(c) Pulmonary (including all Respiratory) .. .. .	J.	11.
(1) Males .. .. .	K.	7.
(2) Females .. .. .	L.	4.
(d) Non-Pulmonary .. .. .	M.	3.
(1) Males .. .. .	N.	-
(2) Females .. .. .	O.	3.
FATAL CASES: (a) Total .. .. .	P.	5.
(b) Pulmonary (including all Respiratory) .. .. .	Q.	5.
(1) Males .. .. .	R.	4.
(2) Females .. .. .	S.	1.
(c) Non-Pulmonary .. .. .	T.	-
(1) Males .. .. .	U.	-
(2) Females .. .. .	V.	-
(d) Non-Notified Tuberculosis Deaths: (1) Number .. .. .	W.	-
(2) Percentage of Total Tuberculosis Deaths .. .. .	X.	-
CASES ADMITTED to Hospital or Sanatorium: (a) Total .. .. .	Y.	6.
(b) Pulmonary (including all respiratory) .. .. .	Z.	6.
(c) Non-Pulmonary .. .. .	A.	-
(d) For Observation .. .. .	B.	-

Table IV.

## HOUSING STATISTICS.

Note - A working-class house may roughly be regarded as a plainly built house with not more than one parlour (in addition to kitchen and scullery).

## NEW WORKING CLASS HOUSES ERECTED (and completed) DURING THE YEAR:-

A. Number (including numbers given separately under B.)		
Grand Total .. .. .	A.	10.
(1) By the Local Authority .Total .. .. .	B.	-
(2) By other Local Authorities. Total .. .. .	C.	-
(3) By other bodies and persons. Total.. .. .	D.	10.
B. With State assistance under the Housing Acts. Total .. .. .	E.	-
(1) By the Local Authority. Number .. .. .	F.	-
(a) To replace Condemned Houses .. .. .	G.	-
(b) To abate Overcrowding .. .. .	H.	-
(c) For fresh Housing .. .. .	I.	-
(2) By other bodies or persons .. .. .	J.	-

## INSPECTION OF DWELLING HOUSES DURING THE YEAR.

1.- Inspection-(1) (a) Total number of dwelling houses inspected for Housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts) .. .. .	K.	162.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	L.	162.
(2) (a) Number of dwelling houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations 1925 & 1932 .. .. .	M.	17.
(b) Number of inspections made for the purpose .. .. .	N.	17.
(3) Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation .. .. .	O.	-
(4) Number of dwelling houses (exclusive of those referred to under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation.. .. .	P.	6.

## II. REMEDY OF DEFECTS DURING THE YEAR WITHOUT SERVICE OF FORMAL NOTICES.


Number of defective dwelling houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their officers .. .. .	Q.	6.
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## III. ACTION UNDER STATUTORY POWERS DURING THE YEAR.

(A) Proceedings under Sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936.		
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Formal notices were served requiring repairs .. .. .	R.	6.



(2) Number of dwelling houses which after Formal notices were rendered fit:-			
(a) By owners .. .. .	S.	6.	
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners.. .. .	T.	-	
(B)- Proceedings under Public Health Acts:-			
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which Formal notices were served requiring defects to be remedied.	U.	29.	
(2) Number of dwelling houses in which defects after Formal notices were remedied:-			
(a) By owners .. .. .	V.	29	
(b) By Local Authority in default of owners .. .. .	W.	-	
(C) - Proceedings under Sections 11 & 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:-			
(1) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which an undertaking to close the house for human habitation was accepted .. .. .	X.	-	
(2) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made .. .. .	Y.	-	
(3) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders .. .. .	Z.	1.	
(D) - Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act 1936:-			
(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were made .. .. .	A.	-	
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit. .. .. .	B.	-	
NUMBER OF HOUSES OWNED BY THE LOCAL AUTHORITY. Grand Total .. .. .		C.	473.
Those completed during the year .. .. .		D.	-
(1) To replace Condemned Houses .. .. .		E.	-
(ii) For fresh housing .. .. .		F.	-
(iii) To abate overcrowding .. .. .		G.	-
NEW SUPERIOR HOUSES: (Superior to working class dwellings.)			
Number completed during the year .. .. .		H.	37.
RE-CONDITIONED HOUSES (under the Housing of Rural Workers Act, 1926).			
Number re-conditioned (and completed) during the year.		I.	-
HOUSING ACT, 1935 - OVERCROWDING. Result of first survey:			
(a) Total number of houses in the district .. .. .	J.	2600.	
(b) Number of houses Surveyed (Workman's houses) .. .. .	K.	39.	
(c) Number of these overcrowded .. .. .	L.	17.	
(d) Number of Families dwelling in the Overcrowded Houses .. .. .	M.	17.	
(e) Number of persons dwelling in the overcrowded Houses .. .. .	N.	109½.	
HOUSING ACT, 1936. ( Part IV - OVERCROWDING).			
(a) (1) Number of dwellings overcrowded at the end of the year .. .. .	O.	13.	
(2) Number of families dwelling therein .. .. .	P.	13.	
(3) Number of person dwelling there .. .. .	Q.	88½.	
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year .. .. .	R.	-	
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowded dwellings relieved during the year .. .. .	S.	3.	
(2) Number of families concerned in such cases .. .. .	T.	3.	
(3) Number of persons concerned in such cases .. .. .	U.	15.	
(d) Particulars of any cases in which dwelling houses have again become overcrowded after the Local Authority has taken steps for the abatement of overcrowding .. .. .	V.	-	



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## SANITARY INSPECTOR'S ANNUAL REPORT, 1939.

Gentlemen,

The great events of 1939, which culminated in the declaration of war in September, had an immediate effect on the work of the Sanitary Department, much of the routine work had already been curtailed by the retarding effect produced by the "international situation". Like all other departments of municipal activity we were carried along by the war preparations stream, and whilst hoping for the best, we prepared for the worst. After obtaining a First Class Instructors' Certificate at Falfield in December, 1938, I applied much of my time to training personnel in various branches of the Council's air raid precautions scheme. Members of the house refuse collection staff with the addition of other volunteers were soon turned into a useful Decontamination Squad, anti-gas instruction and drill was given to newly formed Rescue and Repair Squads from the Engineer's Department, and members of the first group of volunteer wardens were helped over initial difficulties and sat the qualifying examination. It can be truly said that from a position of absolute stalemate in which we found ourselves with the County Authorities in 1938, Conway in January 1939, was well on the way to a foremost position in air raid precautions.

### Clean Milk.

Peacetime interests were still uppermost in January when I attended a Clean Milk Course at the Agricultural Section of the University College of North Wales, Bangor. Intensive instruction in the latest methods and practices of clean milk production and dairying methods were conducted by Professor R.G.White, Mr. Rowlands, The Veterinary Advisor, Mrs Hobson, The Bacteriologist, and others. The Course was excellent and could not have been conducted by better authorities. Over forty people attended, being representatives of local authorities' health departments and others connected with the milk industry. It was a good revelation of what is being done in a very quiet and efficient manner for the benefit of the community, for my own part I found myself dashing off from a solemn lecture on the principles of B.Coli count and its relations to the production of clean milk, to another given by myself on poisonous war gases and their destructive effects. I sincerely hope that when better times are with us, and we are free again to apply ourselves to constructive pursuits, that the seeds of knowledge so hardly sown at Bangor, will not have fallen on stony places.

### Camping.

As the year progressed, holiday makers began to arrive in the district from industrial areas and it was evident from the number of tents and caravans set up in the fields, that the camping holiday was on the increase. The Council approved many sites as Licensed camping grounds and a careful watch was kept on those and on other potential sites, not so approved. Up to August there was a record number of people holiday-making in tents and caravans and very little trouble was experienced in keeping things under control. September and the outbreak of war had the effect of clearing the district in a few days.

### War Declared.

With the approach of September, National Defence claimed more and more of our attention, the national need gradually dominated all other activities and we experienced a great perplexity as to what would happen next. There was an increasing difficulty in purchasing materials, articles of common use were becoming unobtainable, goods which were normally dispatched per return by our usual suppliers were weeks in arriving, and some special lines, such as refuse collection baths have been discontinued ever since. As things were, it was something of a relief when the Prime Minister made the dramatic announcement of the declaration of war.



### Evacuation.

From that moment we set about working in earnest and we were kept fully occupied for a considerable period. Much of the work was unfamiliar and outside the scope of our usual routine. Evacuee children poured into the area every day, and in and around the railway stations was a constant stream of children. They were rapidly dealt with and hurried off to their new homes, where it was soon discovered that many of them were themselves hosts to other little strangers which were not so familiar to the sanitary department of this area. The children were the subjects of an odd mixture of welcome, sympathy, and not a little consternation. Our good housewives were not dismayed, those that had the bad luck, worked wonders with the means at their disposal and with the advice of their more fortunate neighbours and the sanitary inspector, the prompt application of soap and hot water with the effective use of the small tooth-comb properly applied, and some clean clothes soon had the matters to right. Our services were in constant demand on those occasions in restoring peace of mind to the harassed foster mother.

Things have a way of coming out right side up and in spite of many mix-ups, evacuation of children proved no exception to the rule, and we are glad that there are no serious consequences to report

### Voluntary Services.

There was at this time a great increase in volunteers for the various services. People immediately realised now that war had come upon us that they must do something to help. There is never any scarcity of volunteers at a time like that, people are falling over each other with offers to do anything that is asked of them, not realising that in a crisis, an untrained person is a liability to the cause and a menace to others. It is a great pity that things should be ever thus, and it is very embarrassing to have to tell people that there is nothing they can do until they have been trained to do it, and that is another matter which time has enabled us to put right side up.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Yours obediently,

REES GRIFFITHS.

## MILK AND DAIRIES.

There are twenty-six dairy farms in the area producing milk from a total of 278 cows. Nearly all the farmers are retailers of milk only, very little butter is produced for sale. There is a general desire in the majority of cases to conduct the business with due regard to the principles of cleanliness and dairy hygiene. Unfortunately there are still a few who carry out the minimum requirements with more reluctance than energy.

### Visits of Inspection.

Dairies .. .. .	115.
Cowsheds .. .. .	94.
Retailing Carts .. .. .	42.

### Notices of Defects served and Complied.

Limewashing of Cowsheds .. .. .	6.
Repair defective paving .. .. .	1.
Cleanse dirty cows .. .. .	2.
Repair defective drainage .. .. .	2.
Cleanse dirty cowsheds .. .. .	1.
To affix name on vehicle.. .. .	1.

### Sampling - Under Food & Drugs Act.

The Caernarvonshire County Council carry out these duties.

#### For Cleanliness etc.

Ordinary Milk.. .. .	43.
Tuberculin Tested.. .. .	3.
Pasteurised .. .. .	1.

Three samples were declared unsatisfactory owing to high coliform count.

There were no prosecutions.

### Milk Dealers.

Retail Producers only .. .. .	18.
Wholesale & Retail Producers .. .. .	8.
	<u>26.</u>
Retail Milk Sellers .. .. .	8.
	<u>34.</u>

### Details of Notices Served and Complied.

"Bodesgallen" Farm.	Defective Paving.
"Márl" Farm.	Dirty Cow Flanks.
"Bryn Derw" Farm.	Dirty Cow Flanks.
"Victoria" Dairy.	Notice to affix name and address on vehicle
"Glan Morfa" Farm.	Dirty Cowsheds.
"Glan Morfa" Farm.	Leaking Drain.
"Tai" Dairy .	Defective Drain.
"Bryn Dowski" Farm.	Limewashing Cowsheds.
"Bryn Gynog" Farm.	Limewashing Cowsheds
"Tyddyn Nesaf" Farm.	Limewashing Cowsheds.
"Bryn Glorian" Farm.	Limewashing Cowsheds.
"Hendre Wen" Farm.	Limewashing Cowsheds.
"Tan-Yr-Efail" Farm.	Limewashing Cowsheds.

## Notices Served on Owners of Property.

						Housing.		Public H.Acts.	
						Prelim.	Statutory.	Prelim.	Statutory.
Defective Drainage	..	..	..	..	..	1.	-	7.	-
" Yard Paving	..	..	..	..	..	3.	-	-	-
" Gullies	..	..	..	..	..	3.	-	1.	-
" Main Roofs	..	..	..	..	..	3.	-	1.	-
" Gutters and Downspouts	..	..	..	..	..	1.	-	5.	1.
" Walls (external)	..	..	..	..	..	4.	-	-	-
" Walls (internal)	..	..	..	..	..	4.	-	-	-
" Windows and Ventilation	..	..	..	..	..	1.	-	-	-
" Dampness	..	..	..	..	..	5.	-	5.	1.
" Sinks and Waste Pipes	..	..	..	..	..	3.	-	1.	-
" Cooking-Ranges and Firegrates	..	..	..	..	..	4.	-	5.	-
" Doors and Woodwork	..	..	..	..	..	3.	-	2.	-
" W.C.'s Structure	..	..	..	..	..	2.	-	3.	-
" W.C.Pan	..	..	..	..	..	2.	-	5.	-
" W.C.Flush	..	..	..	..	..	2.	-	2.	-
" Staircases	..	..	..	..	..	1.	-	-	-
" Refuse Bins	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	9.	-
" Water Supply	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	6.	-
Accumulation of Rubbish	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	6.	1.
Keeping Animals so as to be a Nuisance	..	..	..	..	..	-	-	1.	1.

## Factories Act: - Notices Served.

J.M.Williams, Conway.      Limewashing Workshop.      Complied.

## SHOPS ACTS AND YOUNG PERSONS' ACTS.

## Inspections.

Butchers Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	236.
Food Shops including Fish Restaurants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	88.
Other Shops	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	164.

## Notices Served.

Requiring specified hours to be worked by Young Persons	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.
As to notice of weekly half holidays	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4.
To display abstract of Acts.	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	5.
Provide seats for female assistants	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	6.
Recording hours of Sunday employment	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.
Open after hours (written notice)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2.
Open after hours (verbal notice)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.
Provide sanitary arrangements	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.
Working errand boy after 2.30.p.m. Wednesday	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1.
Working errand boy after 2.30.p.m. Wednesday (verbal)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3.

There are over two hundred shops in the borough giving employment to between 600 and 700 of the population.



MEAT AND MEAT INSPECTION.

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

	Cattle Examined Excluding Cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep & Lambs.	Pigs.
Number killed(if known).	-	-	-	-	-
Number Inspected.	151.	-	129.	2033.	542.
All Diseases Except Tuberculosis.					
Whole Carcases Condemned.	Nil.	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	No Records.				
% of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Tuberculosis Only.</u>					
Whole Carcases Condemned.	-	-	-	-	2.
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	20.
% of the number inspecte affected with Tuberculosis.	-	-	-	-	4%.

INSPECTIONS MADE DURING THE YEAR.

Infectious Diseases.	98.	Sheep Examined.	2033.
Drain Works Examined.	123.	Pigs Examined.	542.
Complaints.	104.	Calves Examined.	129.
Nuisances.	47.	Dairies Inspected.	115.
House Refuse Collection.	372.	Cowsheds Inspected.	94.
Miscellaneous.	523.	Carts Inspected.	42.
Camps.	149.	Butchers.	236.
Barndhouses.	49.	Food.	5.
Factories and Workshops.	46.	Others.	347.
Fumigations.	53.	Housing Re-inspections.	145.
Disinfestations.	55.	New Inspections.	17.
Slaughterhouses Inspected.	327.	Council Owned Houses.	246.
Cattle Examined.	151.	Overcrowding.	28.

RATS & MICE (DESTRUCTION) ACT, 1919.

No special effort was made by the Council during National Rat Week 1939. The usual vigilance and attention was given to the possible existence of rats on Council properties and lands. Controlled tipping of house refuse has been continued and a marked absence of rats has been noticed.

A supply of poisons in the form of powder and biscuits <sup>is</sup> kept at the offices and freely distributed for use on suitable sites. Traps are loaned free of charge, burrows in the open are frequently treated with "Cyanogas" or "Horo" smoke gun by the Sanitary Inspector.

The Sanitary Inspector is the designated officer under the Rats and Mice (Destruction) Act, 1919.

**REGULATED ESTABLISHMENTS.**

Those Premises situated within the District.	No. on Register.	No. on Register previous year.	No. of visits or inspections.	No. of premises found defective.	No. of Informal Notices.	No. of these complied with.	No. of Statutory Notices.	No. of these complied with.	No. of Prosecutions.	Purveyors from outside the Dist.
	1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.
Cowsheds & Farm Dairies.. ..	26	27	209	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retailing Milk Carts .. ..	35	35	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Milk Shops(Dairy Shops).. ..	6	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Public Slaughter House .. ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Private Slaughter House... ..	5	6	327	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Meat Shops .. .. .	12	12	236	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retailing Meat Carts .. ..	8	8	42	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Factory Bakehouses .. .. .	5	5	)49	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Workshop Bakehouses.. .. .	10	10		-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Bread Shops .. .. .	28	28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Retailing Bread Vans... ..	20	20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Factories(including Factory Bakehouses & Laundries) ..	8	8	46.	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Workshops(including Workshop Bakehouses and Laundries .. .. .	60	60	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Workplaces .. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Home-Workers' Premises .. ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Offensive Trades.. .. .	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Common Lodging Houses .. ..	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-

Milk Dealers on the Register	Retailing only.	Retailing & Producing.	Wholeselling & Producing.
A. Occupying premises within the District, and selling milk within, or outside, or both.	8.	18.	8.
B. Occupying premises outside the District and importing milk into the District.	-	7.	-

**Slaughterhouses in Past & Present Use.**

	In Dec.1935.	In Dec.1936.	In Dec.1937.	In Dec.1938.	In Dec.1939.
Registered only ..	-	-	-	-	-
Licensed ..	6.	6.	6.	6.	5.
Total on Register.	6.	6.	6.	6.	5.

Note: The Borough is without a Public Abattoir.

## House Refuse Collection & Disposal.

Total Number of Miles covered during the year .. .. .	4,055.
Average Weekly mileage .. .. .	78.
Total Number of Loads collected during the year. .. .. .	1,037.
Average Weekly Loads collected .. .. .	20.
Total Weight of refuse collected. .. .. .	T. Cwt.
(average load is 2 ton 5 cwt.) .. .. .	2333. 15.
Average weekly weight collected.. .. .	44. 17.
New Calls made during the year .. .. .	10.
-	
Population of the Borough .. .. .	10,000.
Area in Acres .. .. .	3,813.
Weight per 1000 persons per annum(tons).. .. .	T Cwt. 233. 7.
% of Refuse weighed.. .. .	-
Net Exp. per 1000. Persons.	
Collection.. .. .	£104.
Disposal .. .. .	£36.
Total .. .. .	3140.
Total Salvage Recovery etc .. .. .	-
Methods of Collection % stated .. .. .	100% Mechanical Haulage.
Methods of Disposal % stated .. .. .	100% Controlled Tipping.
Average Haul (Miles) .. .. .	3.8
Average No. of Persons per house.. .. .	3.6
% of wet refuse (if any) .. .. .	-
Average interval between collections .. .. .	7 days.
Is refuse brought to the kerbside by tenants .. .. .	No.

Disposal has been continued by the Controlled Tipping principal on the site known as Morfa Bach, Conway, where a wet and boggy tidal area is being made hard and dry. The Garner 10/12 cub.yard collection vehicle continues to give reliable service.

Refuse is tipped in parallel bays to a depth of from 7 to 9 feet. 6,486 sq.yds. have been reclaimed to date in addition to several other smaller areas in Llandudno Junction, filled in by request of the Borough Engineer.



